THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

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DNR Reports

Well, after 8 years the chickadee checkoff is finally reality! On May 27, 1988, Governor Schaefer signed Senate Bill 359 into law. Officially called the State Chesapeake Bay and Endangered Species Fund, this law allows Maryland taxpayers to donate monies for the restoration and conservation of the Bay, endangered plants and animals, and nongame wildlife. You, as a taxpayer, can donate part or all of your income tax refund to this Fund. Even if you are one of the unlucky ones who owes the State by April 15, you too can donate on the tax form.

Half the Fund will be available to the Chesapeake Bay Trust (a DNR agency) for Bay restoration, promotion, and education. The other half will be split between the Natural Heritage Program and my program (new title ... Nongame and Urban Wildlife Program). We will be spending our half of the Fund on preservation, conservation, and management of our nongame and endangered species.

The checkoff provides an excellent opportunity for concerned citizens to contribute directly to the conservation of our plant and wildlife resource. We are the 34th state in the country to implement such a tax checkoff. The state of New York generates over $1 million annually for conservation through their checkoff. Our sister states all have checkoffs, and Pennsylvania and Virginia do well in dollars donated. Hopefully, we will do as well or better than our sister states. Time will tell.

Since we do not have a lot of money to spend on advertising and promoting the checkoff, we are looking to the conservation groups throughout the State for help in this effort. You can help by passing the word along to your friends, neighbors, and relatives. Every dollar helps (though $10 or $20 would be even better).

I am looking to spend this money on a variety of projects. We need more information on the status of many nongame species, including barn owls, grassland birds, forest interior breeding birds, etc. Educational materials are needed for public distribution. More efforts are needed to promote our urban and suburban wildlife resources. Monies could be available to conservation groups for selected projects. The possibilities are endless.

But, your help is needed, and will be appreciated.

Glenn Therres

Membership and Board of Directors Meetings

During the annual conference held at Hood College in Frederick, the general membership and the Board of Directors both met on June 11. Following are some highlights of the two sessions.

Financial Matters. Treasurer Emily Joyce reported that the Society is solvent, with just over $136,000 in all the combined funds. Auditing Chairman Rodney Jones had examined the books and found them in good order.

Vice President. Rich Dolesh, in his function as a promoter of the aims of the Society, has been actively encouraging the state's legislators to pass important conservation decisions. In addition he is working on ways to increase the membership of MOS.

Complete reports of the committee chairmen will be published in *Maryland Birdlife*, but some high points are synopsized here:

Atlas. John Cullom. The matching grant challenge has been successfully met, with eight chapters raising $5232, thus ensuring a matching sum of $5000. The $10,000 will be used to help publish the Atlas book. The generosity of the anonymous benefactor is greatly appreciated. Special recognition goes to Howard County Chapter for raising $1847 with its own matching grant.

Eirik Blom. The field work resulted in more than 90,000 records, with nearly every block yielding at least 80 species. In order to keep the production costs down, a desk-top system will be used to publish the Atlas. Even so, the costs are estimated at $30,000 to $35,000.

Cavity Nesting. Chuck Dupree. The MOS Trails report for 1987 is very encouraging, with a total of 119 reports turned in on 1,075 boxes. More chapters are encouraged to become involved.

Conference. Appreciation was expressed to the staff of Hood College, to the Frederick County Chapter, and to all MOS members who volunteered their time and talents to a very successful meeting. The 216 registrants contributed $500 to the Atlas publication fund. The

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Irish Grove Workday

The annual fall workday at Irish Grove will be held on November 5. We need a good number of workers and people with carpentry skills as we have a rather ambitious amount of work to get done.

The main thrust of this workday is to get the foot bridges and observation platforms built along Canal Trail, the reinstated Rail Trail and the new North Trail. The Rail Trail runs from the house, past the barn to the marsh where a low platform is planned, and then continues along the marsh edge to where it joins Round Pond Trail. The Rail North Trail leads from the back of the house, through woods and low marsh to the north end of the property. This trail will require the wearing of low boots for the marsh part, but it is worth it in order to get to the north end which has been inaccessible for a number of years.

Workdays not only get a good bit of work done, but are a lot of fun too. There is ample time to do some birding. Wicomico Chapter provides a scrumptious dinner which is eaten in the screened dining shed. For those who choose to stay overnight, there will be a slide presentation to enjoy as well as swapping tales of birding adventures.

Please make an effort to come and help out. You'll be surprised how much enjoyment can be achieved when working at such a marvelous place as Irish Grove. It would be appreciated if you could let me know ahead of time so we can have an idea of how many hands (and mouths) we'll have.

Dotty Mumford (301-849-8336)
Sanctuary Committee Chairman

Mid-Winter Bird Survey: First Year Results

Last January, just as die-hard Atlasers were beginning to experience withdrawal pains, a new survey project was initiated to gauge wintering bird life in Maryland. The idea for the project, officially called the Mid-Winter Bird Survey, came from four Marylanders, Danny Bystrak, Rick Blom, Sam Droege, and Bob Ringler, who were interested in identifying Maryland's winter birds through a uniform data collection procedure to be carried out in the middle of the season. After I accepted their kind invitation to coordinate the project, detailed plans were drawn up and data collection began on January 10, 1988. The intention is to prepare, following a six-year survey period, winter range and relative abundance maps for wintering diurnal birds. In subsequent years it will be possible to monitor fluctuations, trends and cycles in populations and irruptions of northern species. MOS has provided some funds for supplies; otherwise, this is an all-volunteer effort.

Eventually, half of the state will be surveyed in a checkerboard grid using Atlas blocks as the survey unit. Half of the southern tier blocks in all quads were to be covered the first year, followed by central and northern blocks the next two years, with this cycle to be repeated the last three years. Each block will be surveyed only once for a four-hour period (7:30-11:30 a.m.) between January 10 and February 10 using a walking route proportionally representing the habitats present.

Fifty-one field-experienced birders participated last year and out of 108 blocks surveyed, 94 yielded acceptable data. (We promise clearer instructions on the next round!) Coverage was fairly uniform across the state except for lower Kent and Cecil Counties and the bay coastal area of Dorchester County. Initial results are summarized below. Only a broad analysis is presented due to the small number of blocks completed so far. Thanks are extended to all the observers. We will be seeking you out again this coming season. If you are an experienced birder and would like to participate for the first time, please notify me as soon as possible. It's a great way to kick the mid-winter blues and enjoy a morning walk when it's not hazy, hot and humid!

Results

Number of blocks used in analysis: 94

Total number of species observed during count time: 112 (117 in all)

Mean number of species per block: 32.6; Range: 15-52

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silent auction and the raffle brought in $946.

Mark Weatherholt has accepted the chairmanship of the next conference, which will be held June 2-4, 1989, at Frostburg.

Conservation. Richard Dolesh. Of interest on the Federal level is HR #4127, known as the Morris Udall Natural Heritage Trust Fund. MOS members were urged to support the fund by getting in touch with their Congressmen. Of prime importance on the State level is the Critical Areas Program, which concerns Chesapeake Bay and its tidal waters. All counties bordering the Bay are involved. This legislation needs MOS support.

Mr. Dolesh expressed his disappointment in the lack of effective action after the massive hawk killings by game keepers in Albemarle County, VA.

The Eagle Committee reports that production is up from 100 to 141 fledged.

County Lists. Harvey Mudd. Thanks to membership participation in the program, the lists will continue to be published in *The Yellowthroat*. The next reports will be due in January 1989.

Education. James Cheevers. A 1988 Junior Achievement Award was given to Kimberly Martin of Baltimore. Mr. Cheevers urged members to submit names of students deserving of the award. Thanks was expressed to the thirty people who are volunteers on the MOS Speakers List.

Investments. John Barber. Most of MOS investments remain in money market funds and long-term bonds. Unless the stock market becomes more predictable, changes in investment strategy will not be made.

Library. Joy Wheeler. Full sets of *Maryland Birdlife* are available to chapters and individuals. The well-known author of books about Maryland birds, Brooke Meanley, is making available the field notes of three pioneer Maryland birders: William H. Fisher, Frank Kirkwood and John Sommers, who were active in field studies in the late 1800s and early 1900s. This important collection, microfilmed, will be available at Cylburn for research.

Long Range Planning. Joanne Solem. MOS members who wish to improve their field birding skills have several options available, including a variety of local and state-sponsored field trips, specialized field guides, "hot lines," and journals which contain aids and site guides. Field trip participation at the local level could be livened up by sharing areas and good leaders with neighboring chapters.

Mailing Lists. Bill Murphy. Address changes must be sent in promptly if the lists are to be kept current. Life membership information will be entered in the data base when the names are made known by the chapters.

Nominating. Helen Ford. Elected to serve as MOS officers for the next year: President - Robert Ringler; Vice President - Richard Dolesh; Treasurer - Emily Joyce; Secretary - Patricia Moore. Jean Tierney and Dennis Kirkwood will serve on the committee for the next two years, along with Chris Slaughter, Dave Wallace and Helen Ford, who will each serve one more year.

Publications. Chan Robbins. The effort to bring *Maryland Birdlife* up-to-date is moving right along and it is hoped that a 1988 issue will be completed in 1988. Chapter Presidents and Committee Chairmen are urged to submit their annual reports promptly. Volunteers from the Howard Chapter have helped assemble materials for authors of the Atlas book. The goal is to have the first drafts of species reports turned in by September 1988.

Records. Erika Wilson. The records are periodically published in *The Yellowthroat*, with a number currently under review by the committee.

Sanctuary. Dorothy Mumford. Talbot and Caroline Chapters continue to monitor the proposed development adjacent to Mill Creek and Pelot Sanctuaries. The annual work weekend is keeping Carey Run's house and grounds in adequate shape. The Irish Grove Committee has accomplished much: trails have been improved and the old pipes in the house have been replaced. Now the electrical system needs to be overhauled.

Scholarship. Mildred Gebhard. The list of the 1988 Ecology and Ornithology Scholarship winners was published in the May/June *Yellowthroat*. Three of the winners were present at the meeting: J. Thomas Congersky, science teacher at Edgewood High School; Linda Behrens, biology teacher at Perry Hall High School; and Pearle Howell, science teacher at Mount St. Mary's College.

Some other business items:

May Count. The Board decided in a voice vote that the Count be held in future on the second Saturday in May.

MOS Decals, Membership Pins and Awards. Local chapters may purchase decals by writing to Earl Palmer, 107 Galewood Road, Timonium, MD 21093. Chapter presidents may obtain membership pins and valued service pins and certificates at the next board meeting from John Malcolm.

Computer. The Society has purchased a computer and laser printer which will be used initially for publishing the Atlas, and then for other MOS purposes.

Patricia J. Moore
MOS Secretary

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Species Appearing In Most Number of Blocks:

	# of Blocks	(%)
American Crow	93	(99%)
Northern Cardinal	91	(97%)
Downy Woodpecker	90	(96%)
Tufted Titmouse	89	(95%)
Dark-eyed Junco	87	(93%)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	86	(91%)
White-throated Sparrow	85	(90%)
Blue Jay	84	(89%)
Song Sparrow	84	(89%)
European Starling	83	(88%)
Carolina Chickadee	81	(86%)
Carolina Wren	81	(86%)

Ranking by Number of Individuals:

Common Grackle	25,451
R. W. Blackbird	16,729
Canada Goose	14,849
European Starling	14,266
American Crow	5,081
House Sparrow	4,808
White-throated Sparrow	3,251
House Finch	2,530
Ring-billed Gull	2,295
Dark-eyed Junco	2,295
Northern Cardinal	1,990

Blocks Yielding Most Number of Species

Quadrangle	Quad, Block Nos.	No. of Spec.
Girdletree	233,5	52
Cambridge	172,5	51
Eden	206,5	49
E. New Market	173,5	48
Kingston	231,5	47
St. Marys City	215,6	44
Whitemarsh	75,6	44
Chicamacomico	187,6	43

Interesting Observations: No Common Yellowthroats were reported and only one Cooper's Hawk and one Fox Sparrow turned up. A Common Raven was observed near Union Bridge northeast of Frederick, east of its normal range. A block in northern Worcester County yielded a Lincoln's Sparrow, a good find on any winter count. Nine of the 10 Catbirds, six of the 8 Brown Thrashers and seven of the 8 Eastern Phoebes reported were in lower eastern shore blocks (with the eighth Phoebe in a lower western shore block). The total number of each of these three species also seems lower than those reported on Christmas counts, but this may be explained by the differences in data collection techniques. Only three Chipping Sparrows were observed, all in a Wicomico County block. Nearly all occurrences of Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks came from western Maryland blocks. Astonishingly, the House Finch, which 20 years ago would have been one of the least common birds, ranked eighth in total number of individuals and was seen in 70 (74%) blocks. Lapland Longspurs appeared in a flock of 30 near Salisbury, while a singleton was observed in a Harford County block near the Pennsylvania border. Finally, three snow buntings were counted in a block in northern Garrett County, four on Deal Island and three more in western Frederick County.

Observers: Ted Banvard, Polly Batchelder, Wayne Bell, Rick Blom, Dave Brinker, Danny Bystrak, Jim Cheevers, Marty Chestem, Roger Clapp, Les Coble, Lynn Davidson, Deanna Dawson, Bob Dixon, Kevin Dodge, Sam Droege, Chuck Dupree, Les Eastman, Jane Farrell, Harold Fogleman, Mark Garland, Russ Greenberg, Alex and Helene Hammer, Emily Joyce, Paul Jung, Hank Kaestner, Dennis Kirkwood, Wayne Klockner, Carol McCullough, Harvey Mudd, Floyd Murdoch, Mike O'Brien, Rob Peeples, Chandler Robbins, Sue Ricciardi, Bob Ringler, Ann Smith, Connie Skipper, Jo Solem, Jim Stasz, Byron Swift, Charlie Swift, Keith Van Ness, June Vaughn, Dave Wallace, Pete Webb, Steve Westre, Claudia Wilds, Jim Wilkinson, George Wilmot, Erica Wilson.

Sue Ricciardi
1132 Ferber Avenue
Arnold, MD 21012
647-9513

Fairview Weekend A Success

The Washington County Chapter of MOS held their seventh annual birding weekend May 21 and 22 at Fairview Outdoor School at Clear Spring, Maryland. About forty birding enthusiasts, many returnees and some newcomers, enjoyed the only two rain-free days in a nine-day rainy period. Chan Robbins, Bob Ringler, and several local people led field trips to such places as the C & O Canal at Four Locks, Licking Creek, and Fort Frederick and to Wildlife Management Areas at Blairs Valley, Indian Springs and Pectonville. The total number of species for the weekend count was 112. Coordinator for the event was Mary Corderman.

Robert A. Keedy

MOS Convention Pin Contest

Remember to design your entries for the pin contest for the 1989 MOS Convention. The design should feature a bird symbolic of Western Maryland, and must contain the phrases "MOS" and "1989."

Further guidance will be published in the next issue of *The Yellowthroat*, or may be obtained from John Malcolm, 14832 Fireside Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20904.

The Osprey's Nest— Computerized Birding?

The Osprey's Nest is a computer bulletin board operated by birdwatchers for birdwatchers in the the Washington, D. C. Metropolitan Area. What is a computer bulletin board? Like the community bulletin boards in supermarkets, a computer bulletin board is a place where people can leave messages, answer messages, and get information. To use a computer bulletin board, you need to have a personal computer and a modem, a device which lets your computer talk to other computers over the telephone lines.

The Osprey's Nest, operated as a public service by MOS members Norm & Fran Saunders, has been online now for 14 months. There are over 250 active users, including callers from 28 states and 4 Canadian provinces. The majority of the bulletin board users are, however, local to the D. C. area and cover a broad range of birding experience and expertise.

In addition to a lively message area, many files are available to users, including weekly transcripts of the Voice of the Naturalist (the Audubon Naturalist Society birding hotline), the Cape May Bird Observatory weekly hotline, and the Virginia Society of Ornithology's Virginia BirdLine. Information on many local and national birding organizations, publications, and professional societies is also included, as are reviews of books and equipment of interest to the birder and other amateur naturalists. Users of The Osprey's Nest are encouraged to share their experiences and thoughts on birding gear, local hotspots, thorny identification problems, and whatever else they want to discuss or find out more about. During the winter months there is always an animated discussion of squirrel-control techniques at feeders!

It's impossible to touch on all facets of The Osprey's Nest in such a short article. Please feel free to call the bulletin board and explore for yourself. There is no charge other than any long-distance fees Ma Bell or her rivals may charge. The Osprey's Nest phone number is (301) 989-9036 and is located in Colesville, MD, a local call to most of the D. C. Metropolitan area. The bulletin board is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week and receives incoming calls at 300 or 1200 baud. Your communications parameters should be set to 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity. If you feel overwhelmed by the subject of computer communications but would like to explore the topic further, don't hesitate to call Norm and Fran evenings for a plain old telephone chat; the number is (301) 989-9035.

MOS Calendar September/November 1988

Friday, September 16

MEETING. Caroline. A nature film will be shown. 7:30 p.m. Caroline County Public Library.

Saturday, September 17

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Dolly Sods. Meet at Rt. 220 South Park & Ride at 7 a.m. Bring lunch.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Meyer's Station Rd., Anne Arundel County. Confusing fall warblers and more. Half-day trip. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Annapolis Mall Park & Ride lot off Jennifer Street. The leader is Emily Joyce, 923-6053.

CYLBURN OPEN HOUSE. Baltimore. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Exotic plant sale—a large selection of unusual plants from regional nurseries. MOS Bird Museum open. See Sept. 6 entry for directions.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Jug Bay. Afternoon trip to Patuxent River Park, on the border of Anne Arundel and Prince Georges Counties, for migrating Soras. Scheduled for optimal tidal conditions. Maximum of 15 on electric boat. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Contact the leader, Debbie Terry, at 252-8771. Meet at Northway Shopping Center. From Rt. 3 south, turn left at Old Mill Rd. (traffic light after Rt. 100). Shopping center is on the left, just after McDonald's.

CHAPTER PICNIC. Harford. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the 4-H Camp on Cherry Hill Rd., across Deer Creek from Rocks State Park. Bring the entire family to enjoy this beautiful area! The coordinator is Les Eastman, 734-6969.

Sunday, September 18

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. McDonogh Woods. Meet at 8 a.m. at McDonogh Rd. bridge over Gwynns Falls, which is just W. of the I-795 overpass and the railroad. Fall migrants. Joint trip with Chesapeake Audubon Society. The leader is Dave Johnson, 922-3867.

ANNUAL PICNIC. Montgomery. 7th annual MCC picnic. Little Bennett Regional Park. Bring picnic lunch. Bird scavenger hunt at various sites in Montgomery and Frederick Counties, followed by prizes and picnic at Little Bennett, at 12:30. Take Rt. 121 exit from I-270 NE to Rt. 355, left on 355 to entrance. Further details at first chapter meeting. The organizers are Dave Czaplak and Mary Ann Todd, 328-8504.

BIRDWALK. Talbot. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer's Furniture Store parking lot in St. Michaels. The leader is Steve Goodbred.

Monday, September 19

MEETING. Kent. "Birds of Maryland," by James W. Cheevers. 7:30 p.m. Kent County Library, Chestertown.

Tuesday, September 20

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8 a.m. See September 3 entry for meeting place. The leader is Norma Struckhoff, 561-8196.

Wednesday, September 21

MEETING. Jug Bay. 6:00 p.m. "Otter" tourboat trip to see Sora at low tide at Patuxent River Park. Jug Bay members only.

Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Hawk Mountain, Pa. Hawk watching at its very best. Entrance fee to enter sanctuary. Weekend stay recommended. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by Sept. 23. Call the leader, Debbie Rudis, at 956-5018.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Cape May Weekend. Migrant accipiters, falcons, warblers, other land birds near peak of fall migration. Meet at 6:45 a.m. at the lighthouse in Cape May Point SP. See the newsletter for details, accommodations, etc. Call the leader, Bob Augustine, after 6:30 p.m. at 933-5970 for reservations.

Saturday, September 24

ORNITHOLOGY CLASS. Allegany. See Sept. 3 entry for further details.

EXHIBIT. Allegany. Annual Hunting & Fishing Day at Country Club Mall. Mark Weatherholt will coordinate Allegany participation in this event.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Oregon Ridge Nature Center. Breakfast with the Birds at 7 a.m. Hospitality: Debbie Markwitz, 563-3478. Bird walk at 8 a.m. with park naturalist Bob Stanhope, 771-0034. From I-83 take Exit 20 west; follow Shawan Rd. to light on Beaver Dam Rd.; left, then right at all forks (follow signs to Nature Center; park in lot near Center).

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Adventure Bird Banding Station.

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Calvert County high spots. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride Parking Lot, intersection of MD Rtes. 2 and 4, near Huntington, MD. Form carpools to tour Cove Point, Flag Pond Park, Godgrace Point, Chesapeake Beach, and North Beach, looking for fall migrants. Bring lunch and a scope if you have one. Moderate amount of walking. The leader is Jim Stasz. Call Bill Curran, 449-6029, to register for the trip.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Sycamore Landing and Turf Farm. "Grasspipers" and migrant land birds. Meet 7:30 a.m. at Sycamore Landing parking lot, next to the C & O Canal. The leader is Byron Swift, 333-6890.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. All-day trip to Hawk Mountain. Bring lunch and meet at 7:00 a.m. at E. K. Doub Elementary School, S. Potomac St., Hagerstown.

Sunday, September 25

BIG DAY. Baltimore. An all-day marathon to rack up a big species count within Balto. County. Limited to 16 persons. For information and reservations, call Hank Kaestner at 252-5237 or Pete Webb at 486-1217.

BIRDWALK. Talbot. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer's Furniture Store parking lot in St. Michaels. The leader is Jeff Effinger.

Monday, September 26

MEETING. Wicomico. 7:30 p.m. "Birding Newfoundland," with Don Broderick and Charlie Vaughn. Asbury Methodist Church, Fox Rm., Camden Ave., Salisbury.

Tuesday, September 27

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9 a.m. See September 3 entry for meeting place. The leader is Shirley Geddes, 377-6583.

MEETING. Washington. 7:30 p.m. "Birds of Costa Rica," by Dr. William Oberman. Washington County Board of Education Planetarium Conference Room located on Commonwealth Ave., just off Frederick St., in Hagerstown.

Wednesday, September 28

MEETING. Allegany. Slide presentation on hawk identification using slides from Hawk Mountain, Pa. 7 p.m. Allegany County Health Department.

Saturday, October 1

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Green Ridge for hawk watching. Meet at North Branch C & O Canal parking lot at 9 a.m.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Back River Neck. Meet at 8 a.m. at Back River Neck Elem. Sch., 800 block of Back River Neck Rd. at Pottery Farm Rd. (south of Eastern Ave.) Excellent concentration of fall migrants. The leader is Earl Palmer, 252-6457.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Soldiers Delight for Fringed Gentians. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Soldiers Delight historical marker and overlook. From Liberty Rd. (about 4 mi. west of I-695) turn right onto Deer Park Rd. immediately after Deer Park Shopping Ctr. Drive about 2 mi. to overlook on left. The leader is Wayne Gorden, 442-2882.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Patuxent River Park. Sora, rails, American and Least Bittern possible; waterfowl. Meet at 5:30 a.m. at the Rt. 24/I-95 Park & Ride. All day, bring a lunch. Limit 16. The coordinators are Bill McIntosh, 734-6517, and Pam Rhoads, 838-7432. Call Bill for reservations.

FIELD TRIP. Howard County. Soldiers Delight. Cancelled if raining. Meet at 8:45 a.m. at Grempler Realty parking lot, in Columbia, or at 9:30 a.m. at Deer Park Rd. at main overlook. The leader is Jean Worthley.

YARD SALE. Kent. Chapter fund-raiser. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Radcliffe Mill, Chestertown.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Hughes Hollow and Turf Farm. Migrant landbirds and shorebirds. Possible Lincoln's Sparrow. Meet at 8 a.m. at Hughes Hollow parking lot. The leader is Bob Hilton, 387-2301.

FIELD TRIP. Wicomico. Bay Bridge-Tunnel. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Asbury Methodist Church, N. parking area, Salisbury. All day. The leaders are Carol and Don Broderick, 742-8920.

Calendar continued

Sunday, October 2

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Point Lookout State Park. Good spot on Western Shore for hawks, late migrants, possible Western Kingbird. Meet at point, near Coast Guard Bldg. at 8 a.m. 2/3-day, bring lunch. The leader is Paul O'Brien, 424-6491.

BIRDWALK. Talbot. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer's Furniture Store parking lot in St. Michaels. The leader is Les Coble.

Tuesday, October 4

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9 a.m. See September 3 entry for meeting place. The leader is Mac Plant, 532-4179.

MEETING. Baltimore. Refreshments at 7:30 p.m., program at 8:00. "Birding Adventures in Mexico," by Chan Robbins. See Sept. 6 entry for directions.

Thursday, October 6

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Soldiers Delight. Meet at 1 p.m. at Frank's Nursery & Craft Center on Reisterstown Rd., north of RR bridge. Fringed Gentians in bloom. Cancelled if raining. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 374-5370.

MEETING. Frederick. "Studies of Population Decline of Pheasants in Western Maryland," by Nancy Stewart. 7:30 p.m. at Frederick High School.

Friday, October 7

MEETING. Anne Arundel. 8 p.m. "Spring on the American Prairie," by Dr. Robert W. Trevor. Annapolis Branch of the Anne Arundel County Library, 1410 West St., Annapolis.

Saturday-Monday, October 8-10

FIELD TRIP. MOS Delmarva Listers' Trip. 3-day trip to birding hotspots on the Eastern Shore, working down the coast Sat. and Sun. and back through central and Bay spots Mon. Join the group at Bombay Hook; stay as long as you like. Mostly birding near the cars. Meals after Sat. lunch to be purchased along the way; however, a snack supply is recommended. Spotting scopes highly recommended. Overnight arrangements made late each day. Meet at 9 a.m. on Sat. at Bombay Hook NWR Visitor Center. The leader is Bob Ringler, 549-6031.

Saturday, October 8

FIELD TRIP. Caroline. Tuckahoe State Park. 8:30 a.m. The leader is Wilbur Rittenhouse.

Sunday, October 9

CYLBURN OPEN HOUSE. Baltimore. Bonsai sale. MOS Bird Museum open. 2-4 p.m. See Sept. 6 entry for directions.

BIRDWALK. Talbot. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Higgins & Spencer's Furniture Store parking lot in St. Michaels. The leader is Jan Reese.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Snyders Landing on the C & O Canal. Meet at 1:30 p.m. See Sept. 11 entry for meeting place.

Tuesday, October 11

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9 a.m. See Sept. 3 entry for meeting place. The leader is Peggy Bohanan, 752-3520.

Thursday, October 13

MEETING. Howard County. "Tracking Birds by Satellite," by Tom Strikwerda. 7:30 p.m. Longfellow Elem. School, Columbia.

MEETING. Talbot. "Churchill Without Polar Bears," by Lola Oberman. 7:30 p.m. at the Loyola Federal S & L Association at the corner of Harrison and Goldsborough Sts. in Easton. Parking and entrance at the rear of bank along Goldsborough St.

Saturday, October 15

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Jug Bay. 3-hour boat trip with Greg Kerns. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, limited to 16 participants. Bring lunch. See Sept. 17 entry for meeting place. Meet at 6:30 a.m. Call the coordinator, Sally Rowe, at 647-4519.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Lily Pons.

COVERED DISH SUPPER. Wicomico. 6:00 p.m. at the Stadlers. "Rehabilitation of Birds and Animals," by Bobby Stadler.

Sunday, October 16

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Northampton Furnace Trail. Meet at 8 a.m. at historical marker 2.2 miles north of beltway on Dulaney Valley Rd. (opposite Chapelwood Ln.) Late migrant and early winter resident songbirds, waterfowl, and hawks. The leader is Joy Wheeler, 825-1204.

Monday, October 17

MEETING. Kent. "Swans—Satellite Tracking," by Dr. Roland Limpert. 7:30 p.m. Kent County Library, Chestertown.

Wednesday, October 19

MEETING. Jug Bay. 7:00 p.m. "A Naturalist in China," by Dr. Messersmith of the University of Maryland. Patuxent River Park, Croom Md.

Thursday, October 20

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. A 2-hour tour, beginning at 1:30 p.m., led by Nel Baldacchiro. See captive eagles, cranes, and Andean Condors. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED, limited to 14 people. Make reservations by Oct. 19 with the coordinator, Debbie Rudis, at 956-5018.

Friday, October 21

MEETING. Caroline. "The Alaskan Wilderness," by Bob Dittrick (tentative). 7:30 p.m. Caroline County Public Library.

Saturday, October 22

MEETING. Allegany. Annual Chapter Dinner. Speaker and location to be announced.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Washington Monument State Park. Hawk migration.

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. 3-hour boat trip through the hydrilla on the Potomac looking for ducks. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the end of Wharf Rd. in Accokeek. From the beltway go S. on Indian Head Highway (MD Rt. 210), right on Farmington Road West until it turns left, then right onto Wharf Road and go to the end. Dress warmly! Maximum is 9 people. Call the leader, Greg Kearns, at 627-6074 to reserve your spot on this new trip.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Adventure Sanctuary to watch Margaret Donnald band birds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. See the entry for Sept. 11 for meeting place.

Sunday, October 23

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Myrtle Grove WMA, Charles County. A good place to find Red-headed Woodpeckers. Bring a lunch and meet at 9:00 a.m. at the location noted in the Sept. 17 entry. The leader is Mark Hoffman, 647-7227.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Monument Knob and Lily Pons. Hawk-watching from the stone tower at Washington Monument State park in Frederick County. White-crowned Sparrows and late migrant shorebirds at Lily Pons Fish Hatchery. Meet at 7:30 a.m. See the Sept. 11 entry for meeting place. The leader is Steve Sanford, 825-1204.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Ma & Pa Railroad for owls, fall warblers, and Pileated Woodpecker. Meet at 5:00 a.m. at Hess Oil Co. on Bunker Hill Rd. in Delta (see chapter newsletter for directions). Owling from 5-7 a.m., daylight birding from 8-11:30. The coordinators are Beth Olsen, 717-456-5067, and Carole and Joe Vangrin, 838-5264.

Monday, October 24

MEETING. Wicomico. 7:30 p.m. "Birding Kenya, Part II" with Eddie and Chris Slaughter. See Sept. 26 entry for location.

Tuesday, October 25

MEETING. Washington. "Birds of Florida," by Frank Warfield. 7:30 p.m. See Sept. 27 entry for meeting location.

Saturday, October 29

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. A repeat of the October 22 boat trip on the Potomac. For particulars on this reservations-only trip, see the entry for Oct. 22.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Waggoner's Gap, Pa. Peak period for Golden Eagles, Goshawk; winter finches possible. Meeting place to be announced at Oct. meeting, or contact the leader, Barry Cooper, at 340-2071. Full day, bring lunch and wear warm clothing. Joint trip with ANS.

Sunday, October 30

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Bombay Hook NWR. Thousands and thousands of Snow Geese at the peak of fall migration. Meet at Bombay Hook Visitor's Center at 10 a.m. The leader is Karen Skuldt, 788-6079.

FIELD TRIP. Wicomico. Chincoteague NWR. All day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the location noted in the Oct. 1 entry. The leaders are Doug and Chandra Bruce, 957-3765.

Tuesday, November 1

MEETING. Baltimore. Refreshments at 7:30, program at 8:00 p.m. "Birding Southern Manitoba to Churchill," by Dave Harvey and Chuck Stirrat. See Sept. 6 entry for directions.

Calendar continued

Thursday, November 3

MEETING. Frederick. "Trekking Through China," by Elise Thrasher. 7:30 p.m. at Frederick High School.

Friday, November 4

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Peregrine Falcons at Assateague," by Dr. Kimberly Titus. 8:00 p.m. See Oct. 7 entry for meeting place.

Saturday-Sunday, November 5-6

IRISH GROVE WORKDAY. MOS Sanctuary Committee. Help build new trails, foot bridges, and observation platforms. Wicomico Chapter provides scrumptious dinner. Lots of good birding too. Slide program in the evening. Coordinator: Dotty Mumford, 849-8336.

Sunday, November 5

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Hydrilla boat trip on the Potomac. Thousands of diving and dabbling ducks, eagles, late terns, and shorebirds. Will explore various hot spots between D.C. and Mt. Vernon in open-topped boat. Rain jacket and pants essential for wind and spray protection. Dress warmly, bring snack and beverages. Leader will give time and meeting place. 7-person limit, RESERVATIONS ONLY. The leader is John Bjerke, 963-8525.

Friday, November 10

MEETING. Howard County. "Birds at the Winter Feeder: Results of an Eastern North American Survey," by Dr. David Thornbill. 7:30 p.m. Longfellow Elem. School, Columbia.

Friday-Sunday, November 11-13

EASTON WATERFOWL FESTIVAL. Talbot. Come out to the festival and see the Talbot County Bird Club display. Contact Ginny Graebert at 745-5424 for further information.

Saturday, November 12

FIELD TRIP. Washington. The Wildfowl Trust of North America at Horsehead Sanctuary. All-day trip, just beyond Kent Island at Grasonville. Bring lunch and meet at 7:00 a.m. See Sept. 11 entry for meeting place.

Sunday, November 13

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Piney Run. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the entrance gate of this Carroll County park. Take Liberty Rd. (Rt. 26) through Eldersburg, turn left at White Rock Rd. (about 3 mi. past Rt. 32), left at Martz Rd. and continue to park entrance. Wintering waterfowl and some late fall migrants. Scopes recommended. The leader is Burton Alexander, 381-5574.

Wednesday, November 16

MEETING. Jug Bay. 7:00 p.m. "Birding Adventures in Trinidad & Tobago," by Bill Murphy. Patuxent River Park, Croom, Md.

Friday, November 18

MEETING. Caroline. "Antarctica," by Charles Gant. 7:30 p.m. Caroline County Public Library.

Saturday, November 19

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sandy Point State Park. Perennial favorite for waterfowl and Snow Buntings. ½ day. Meet 7:30 a.m. at Angler's - Rt. 50 on service road near McDonald's.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Blackwater NWR. Carpool from meeting place or join group at Blackwater Visitor's Center about 9:30 a.m. All-day trip to NWR S. of Cambridge for Bald Eagles, countless thousands of Canada and Snow Geese, and other waterfowl. Golden Eagle possible. See Sept. 11 entry for meeting place. The leader is Tito McLean, 377-7622.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Blackwater NWR.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Blackwater NWR. Migratory waterfowl, Bald Eagles, other raptors. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at NWR Visitor's Center. Carpool site near D.C.—Bowie Park & Ride. From Capitol Beltway, take U.S. 50 east 6 mi. to MD 197, Collington-Bowie Exit. Go north ¼ mi. to Park & Ride lot on left. The leader is Gary Nelson, 897-8916.

Wednesday, November 22

MEETING. Talbot. "Birds and Flowers in Talbot and Caroline Counties," by Richard Webster. See entry for Oct. 13 for meeting location and time.

MEETING. Washington. "Weeds," by H. Kolb. 7:30 p.m. See Sept. 27 entry for meeting location.

Saturday, November 26

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Loch Raven Reservoir. Waterfowl on the reservoir; Fox Sparrow and Bald Eagle possible. Spotting scopes recommended. Meet at 8 a.m. at Timonium Park & Ride lot. Take Timonium Rd. (Exit 16 off I-83) E. to 1st traffic light; turn left at Green Spring Dr. The Park & Ride will be on your right. The leader is Steve Simon, 628-1929.

Sunday, November 27

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. All-day trip to Eastern Neck for wintering Bay Birds. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the McDonald's on Rt. 50, just east of the Bay Bridge. Move from there to Sandy Point Park to form carpools. Bring lunch and a scope. Call Bill Curran at 449-6029 to register for this trip.

Monday, November 28

MEETING. Wicomico. 7:30 p.m. "Birds at the Winter Feeder: Results of an Eastern North America Survey" with Dr. David Thorndill. See Sept. 26 entry for location.

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

MOS State Membership Dues: Active $6. Two persons at one address, $8. Junior (under 18) $1. Student (full-time) $2. Life. $200. These are the dues for members-at-large. If you wish to join one of the 15 chapters, their active member dues are additional. Contact the appropriate chapter for further information.

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